

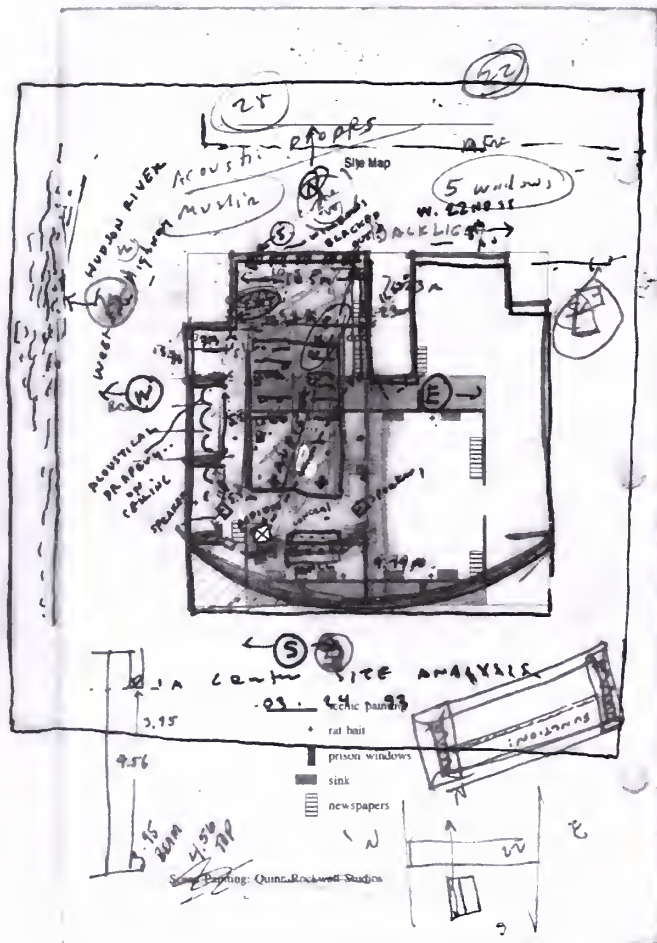
STAA 1-4U

I SEE...



ECO-TEC INTL. CORPS

DIA 425 1993 14 00



Assignment and Extraction Analysis

Dia Center for the Arts
 548 West 22nd Street
 New York City
 Conducted on: 03 24 93

I SEE

...the insurgent mechanics of infection

Mel Chin

1993

DEFINITION:

Transcript and performance notes for ECO-TEC New York Conference
Performed at Dia Center for the Arts
April 25, 1993



Figure 1.

Bolt action Remington M700 .30-06 equiped with Raytheon
night vision scope.

SECTION 1

MISSION:

1.

After introduction you have 30 seconds to...
Pick up Remington M700 .30-06 bolt-action sniper rifle,
altered (with wireless microphone) Raytheon Night Vision
telescopic sight, from hidden space under the panel table.
Load rifle with empty shell. Walk up to the podium and
get into position. Aim at the audience slightly above
the heads and toward the far NE corner.

2.

Repeat these lines being input by micro tape cassette
hidden in your suit...

I see you and my hide is fresh
April - central air and non-existent
wind.
5 northern black outs
2 o'clock
27 meter job
25 acoustical droops
43 second window
25 minute station
3 degrees
Extraction is west
IBS on the Hudson
Alternate up E on eight
Secondary heat is rising and
Capless Assignment wears no flak.
Conditions quiet.
Round is ready.
Easy.

MISSION cont.

3.

Pull rifle trigger. Audible: "click" Sound man: "HIT"

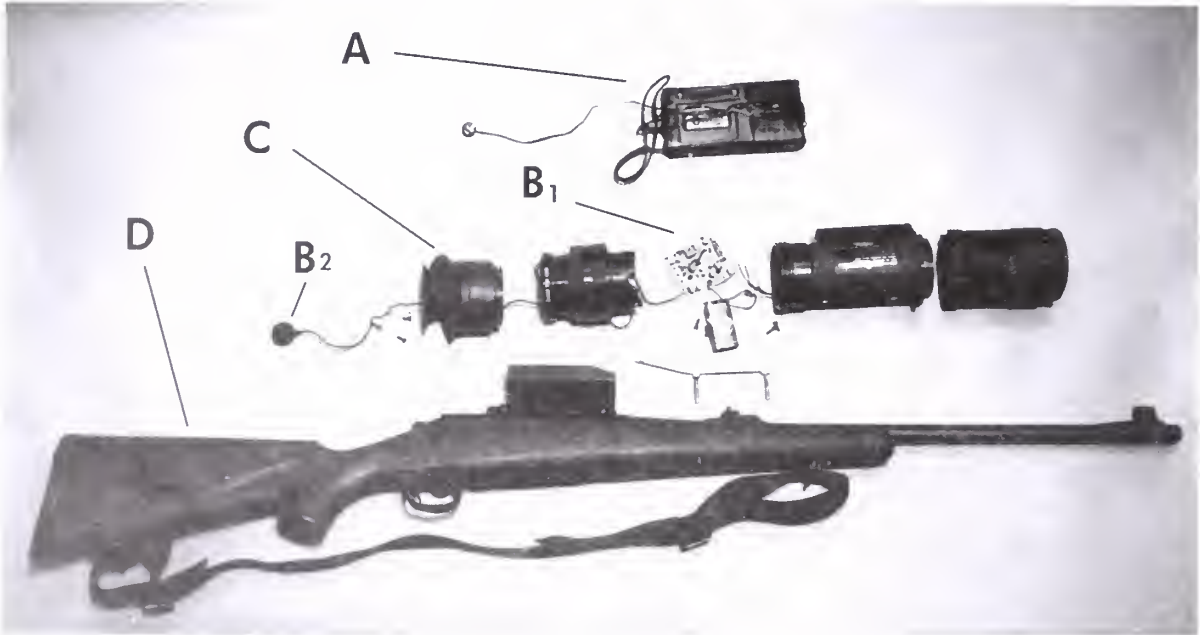


Figure 2.

AUDIO TOOLS and IMPLANTATION SPECIFICATIONS

Disassembled (gutted) Raytheon Night Vision sight (Miniatured Model No. AN/PVS-3) detailing audio component insertion necessary for Mission Part 2.

Note: To complete operation implant must be hardwired to existing exterior switch.

- A. Microcassette and "wire" (input wire and earphone)
- B1. Wireless transmitter (RS Cat. No. 32-1221) circuit board and 9 volt battery power source
- B2. Implanted microphone
- C. Scope part: Rubber eyecup
- D. Remington M700 rifle S/No. C6383125

4.

Eject the shell.

5.

- a. Pull out another "gun" (small cordless Makita drill painted gun metal black)...undo screws that connect scope to the rifle.
- b. Switch on microphone/scope and continue to follow voice on micro-cassette.

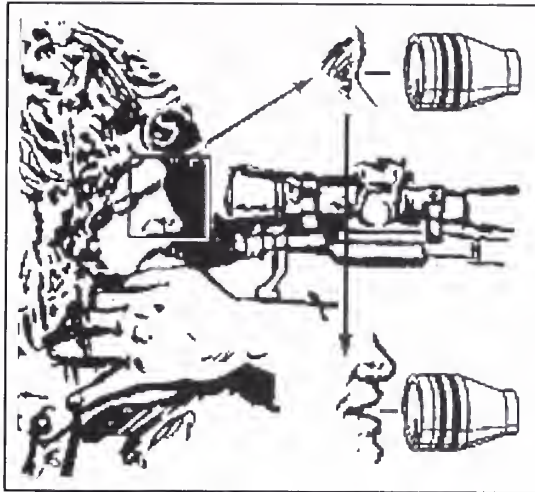


Figure 3.

See MISSION
Requirement No. 5b.

Note: Speak into the
eyepiece.
Voice should be
amplified.

I see you and your hide is fresh and permeable
your passion transmission
a fluid ride
thru gates of mucosal masonry...
line up with platelets in the capillary crush
and flush into the arterial highway.
phagocytic cells take some

CD4 takes me.

joints welded
naked... i am no more.
reverse transcriptase
cytoplasmic hospitality
di-ribo-nucleic ribbon gift.
doubled up into the nucleic network
incorporate, merge
and build MRNA.
protein chassis
surface parts
bond and bail out the cell
phagocytic and antibody memories return...

SECTION 2

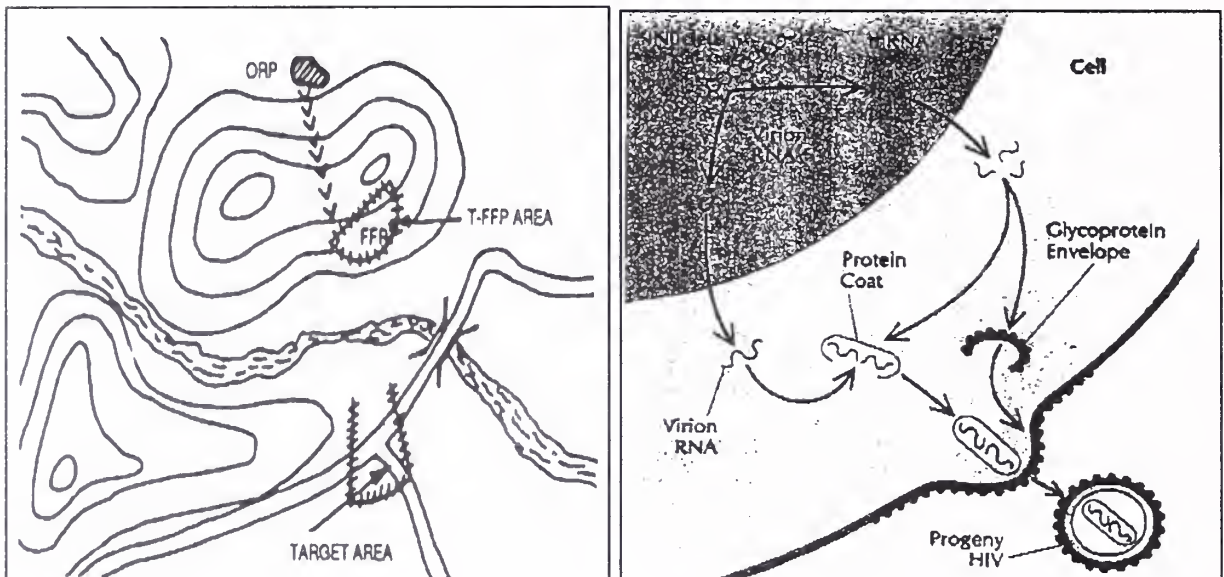


Figure 4.

a. Hide positions

b. HIV infection cycle

MISSION Cont.

6.

Put down the microphone/telescopic sight... read text from podium.

TEXT:

I see (...the insurgent mechanics of infection).

I begin with the constructed voices of two who abnormally mark the conclusion of life with unerring precision - a covert peacetime Marine sniper (whose accuracy is 98% at 1000 meters), and a virion's pathological trek within a human host. Both are imagined commentary on the possession of power under specific directives - one subordinate to the Corps, who exercise the militant will of our state, the other operating under a similar code of habit, within the will of evolutionary process. The top-gun Marine prepared for duty, like the prokaryotic pared down life form, are specialized elite entities. Both create a climate that becomes part and product of a larger, formidable psychological architecture.

I make these statements from a critical perspective of a certain body of my own work that has and continues to exercise political commentary and witness, and from a personal inability to call forth appropriate emotion and action in the light of tragedy and circumstantial reality. The purpose of the following prescriptions are reconnaissance and reflection for a method to provoke rather than invent, and to intensify the mirror rather than set conclusively in stone. This desire steadies my aim.

Artaud comments from The Theater and Its Double, "In the City of God, St. Augustine complains of this similarity between the action of the plague that kills without destroying the organs and the theater which, without killing, provokes the most mysterious alterations in the mind of not only an individual but an entire populace."

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A PHASE I EVALUATION OF THE SAFETY AND IMMUNOGENICITY OF VACCINATION WITH RECOMBINANT gp160 IN PATIENTS WITH EARLY HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS INFECTION

ROBERT R. REDFIELD, M.D., DEBORAH L. BUEX, M.D., NZEERA KETTER, M.D., EDMUND TRAMONT, M.D., VICTORIA POLONIS, Ph.D., CHARLES DAVIS, M.D., JOHN F. BRUNDAGE, M.D., GALE SMITH, Ph.D., STEVEN JOHNSON, M.D., ARNOLD FOWLER, Ph.D., THOMAS WIERZBA, M.S., AVIGDOR SHAFTERMAN, Ph.D., FRANKLIN VOLVOVITZ, CHARLES OSTER, M.D., DONALD S. BURKE, M.D., AND THE MILITARY MEDICAL CONSORTIUM FOR APPLIED RETROVIRAL RESEARCH

Abstract Background. Despite multiple antiviral humoral and cellular immune responses, infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) results in a progressively debilitating disease. We hypothesized that a more effective immune response could be generated by post-infection vaccination with HIV-specific antigens.

Methods. We performed a phase I trial of the safety and immunogenicity of a vaccine prepared from molecularly cloned envelope protein, gp160, in 30 volunteer subjects with HIV infection in Walter Reed stage 1 or 2. The vaccine was administered either on days 0, 30, and 120 or on days 0, 30, 60, 120, 150, and 180. HIV-specific humoral and cellular immune responses were measured; local and systemic reactions to vaccination, including general measures of immune function, were monitored.

Results. In 19 of the 30 subjects, both humoral and

cellular immune responses were measured. In the 19 subjects who responded, 13 of 16 subjects (81 percent) with >600 cells per milliliter responded, as compared with 6 of 14 (43 percent) with ≤ 600 cells per milliliter; $P = 0.07$ and with the number of injections administered (87 percent of subjects randomly assigned to receive six injections responded, as compared with 40 percent of those assigned to three injections; $P = 0.02$). Local reactions at the site of injection were mild. There were no adverse systemic reactions, including diminution of general in vitro or in vivo cellular immune function. After 10 months of follow-up, the mean CD4 count had not decreased in the 19 subjects who responded, but it had decreased by 7.3 percent in the 11 who did not respond.

Conclusions. This gp160 vaccine is safe and immunogenic in volunteer patients with early HIV infection. Although it is too early to know whether this approach

Figure 5.

Microfisch document: 06 13 91

In Euripides' Ion, there are two drops of the Gorgon's blood that "spurted from the hollow vein" -

one that cures all and one that kills all.

The introduction of GP 160 (glyco protein 160 molecular weight) as a post immunological tool by Army doctors at Walter Reed Hospital is to be praised (the rumored mandatory inoculation of the test serum, not.) My own mule-like behavior proves that things don't change that quickly. I don't expect a Gould and Eldridge punctuated equilibrium to immediately arise from the "business as usual stasis" of the military industrial complex. While this singular effort is to be applauded, will the encore be an old reactionary war tune? Will it be an aria to a future altered RNA that was as easy as taking that yellow ribbon off the old oak tree and manipulating it into a neo-fascist icon? If the antidote is first, can a more predictable and virulent one-shot-kill genetic poison packed in a processed gp 160 envelope be far behind? Will its delivery be through deceptive social contact? In an embrace at the next summit?

I guess I'll have to speculate and at the same time re-target my skepticism within the confines of my own discipline.

Booting artworks off high-minded pedestals is not my intention. One or two of mine are on some of the really low ones. But if I suggest that the museum and gallery systems are already acting like cult leaders gone armed and bad, could it be that I am one of the wimpy left arms of a well-intentioned institutional squid? Could my tolerated statements be unwittingly doing the PR bidding of a heartless corporate/colonial sea? All this is easy if you generate your own ink. There are works that I appreciate that have successfully penetrated the defense mechanisms and set up critiques within established hallowed halls. But are we sucker bait? - temporary dandies, comforted and caressed by prehensile tentacles that will gradually pull us into the beak? Our protests are yummy... the bile we spill makes the best ink and the best release of all is the obscuring veil of a Press Release.



David Black, in his book concerning AIDS, The Plague Years, ends with what he describes as a cautionary tale.

"The bubonic plague began in the foothills of in a region and Kumaon. empire acted protect Europe So when the the Saracens Crusades, the they were on the more vulnerable making the disease careful what



began in the the Himalayas known as Garwhal The Saracen as a buffer to from the disease. Europeans fought during the more successful the battlefield, nerable they themselves to at home. Be battles you win."

LOOPHOLES

Figure 6. A Hide with loopholes

Marshalling the forces necessary to wage complete warfare against existing systems as expansive as the military complex and the corporate stronghold is not a tactically secure situation. The benefits of protracted war are little. If I try to fight toe to toe -- stumps will be the testament to those rounds. How can one commit to decentering power and fight what Foucault calls "... the fascism in us all, in our heads and everyday behavior, the fascism that causes us to love power, to desire the very thing that dominates and exploits us"?

The Hmong poet Xeng Sue Yang works another angle of the head...

"To cross a river I shall take off my shoes
To cross a country I shall take off my head"

3-5 MPH



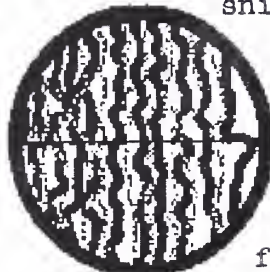
So I sit in my hide with unsettling observations, as an artist with a dissatisfaction with what I perceive to be compartmentalization of that identity. Perhaps waging war is not what I should be doing; but the mechanics of the sniper/virus are a worthy model to use to begin the generation or survival of free thought through the infection of optional forms of reality into closed systems.

An artwork which desires to take excursions into the multitude of systems that comprise our culture other than those of gallery, museum or sanctioned public art event or space, may wish to pack a sniper/viral mind set.



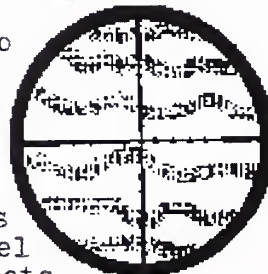
5-8 MPH

BOILING
MIRAGE



Like the sniper and the virus, a fresh hide must be there for the right job and the targets should be the incubators. Specialized incubators of late modern capitalism, such as a fast food chain, a fundamentalist religious sect's compound, a tobacco corporation's advertising agency, and the less fancy endocytic pits along the ever popular strip mall, are available targets for viral action.

I am reluctant to criticize these entities or even deal with them because we are mutually unhealthy within the larger body, but evolving out of this criticism is my craving for connection, and this desire for connection can propel sniper/retro-viral projects.



8-12 MPH

There are many protein cloaks available and possible to be invented in the post-modern era of art to make the connection with any unsuspecting host. There are fewer attempts to find a proper host and even less desire to remove the head or ego that is a necessary disguise to pass through this suspicious membrane.

Figure 7. Target Mirages caused by wind and heat



Figure 8. Branch Davidian compound, Waco Texas April 22, 1992

The frightening conditions that are imposed by a sniper are no longer lurking in the historic journals of war. They are in your face - though out of sight. Such mechanics need not be taken as negative models but as successful working models that are worth taking seriously. Such expeditions into these non-traditional venues are especially fat targets or assignments for art. Of course, should the juicy fruit get smart... alternate escapes must be planned. Here again is a way out through biological methodology... rapidly mutate and go to the next cell.

My paranoia, my vigilance, my witness, my exposure of conspiracy, is not enough. I must take more action. As Eighty-something Aunt E. McRedmond, of Nashville, Tenn. says, "Work begun is half done." It is the half-ness that interests me, the middle state. So the invention of half-done, or incomplete vehicles is more essential than ever. By taking a lesson from the virion that is structurally incomplete, we have a clue. It uses a specific condition to replicate more of its own kind. I think, as an artist, I need to set up similar conditions where it is not the finality of the artist's statement that is important, but the initiation of action that is important.

There is an unpredictable aspect to all this. The attack on the cult compound yielded chaotic and unforeseen effects that raised questions concerning acceptable models of human behavior. Both David Koresh and the ATF had goals final and concise. With cock eyed optimism I can hope that mine may not be so hard wired. I turn to the sniper and virion mechanics as a means not to undermine life, but to deploy coated, unadvertised, undetectable constructions to infect a condition of variables. It is an option to the bottom lines and ultimatums that breed insecurities and compel lives of conformity, fearful of and resistant to discourse, without connection to one another.

As to the nature of such a construction,
full disclosure does not exist, only the
coat has been constructed

and if I uncoat I am

no more.



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Johns Hopkins University /
School of Medicine
StoreFront for Art and
Architecture
Dia Center for the Arts

Panelists pictured on preceding page (left to right)

Cindi Katz
Andrew Ross
Shaun Lovejoy
Moderator: Kyong Park
Mel Chin



Figure 9.
Ghillie Suit (A Hide)

Printed in the U.S.A.

No. 630 of 1500

Quonset Hut Louisville, KY

2003